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This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Amended) A system for managing at least one access rule, comprising:

a main office retaining at least one access rule, the main office in communication with at least one remote office; and

the remote office receiving the at least one access rule from the main office;

wherein the remote office communicates with the main office in conformity with the at least one access rule received from the main office, and wherein the at least one access rule comprises a formatting standard rule used by the main office, and the formatting standard rule is sent to the remote office before the remote office sends entered data to the main office such that the entered data is first correctly formatted to be compatible with a format used by the main office.

- 2. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 1, wherein one of the access rules includes a security access code.
- 3. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 1, wherein one of the access rules includes a password.
- 4. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 1, wherein one of the access rules includes verification of login identification.

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5. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 1, wherein one of the access rules limits the amount of information the remote office is permitted to access.

- 6. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 1, wherein the main office further comprises at least one data rule.
- 7. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 6, wherein one of the data rules includes a format for a field.
- 8. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 6, wherein one of the data rules includes a specification for a number of fields.
- 9. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 6, wherein one of the data rules includes a specification for organizing at least one field of data.
 - 10. (Previously Amended) A system for managing data comprising:

a main office retaining at least one data rule and being in communication with at least one remote office;

the remote office receiving the data rule from the main office;

wherein the remote office transmits data to the main office in conformity with the data rule received from the main office, and wherein the at least one data rule comprises a formatting standard rule used by the main office, and the formatting standard rule is sent to the remote

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office before the remote office transmits the data to the main office such that the data is first correctly formatted to be compatible with a format used by the main office.

11. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 10, wherein one of the data rules includes a format for a field..

- 12. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 10, wherein one of the data rules includes a specification for a number of fields.
- 13. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 10, wherein on of the data rules includes a specification for organizing at least one field of data.
 - 14. (Canceled)
- 15. (Currently Amended) The system for managing data according to claim <u>10-14</u>, wherein one of the access rules include a security access code.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The system for managing data according to claim <u>10</u>–14, wherein one of the access rules includes a password.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The system for managing data according to claim <u>10-14</u>, wherein one of the access rules includes verification of login identification.

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18. (Currently Amended) The system for managing data according to claim <u>10-14</u>, wherein one of the access rules limits the amount of information the remote office is permitted to access.

19. (Previously Amended)A system for managing data comprising:

a main office retaining access rules and data rules in communication with at least one remote office;

the remote office receiving the access rules and the data rules from the main office;
wherein the remote office transmits data to the main office in conformity with the access
rules and the data rules received, and

wherein the access rules and data rules comprise formatting standards used by the main office, and the formatting standards are sent to the remote office before the remote office transmits the data to the main office such that the data is first correctly formatted to be compatible with a format used by the main office.

- 20. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 19, further comprising two or more remote offices.
- 21. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 19, wherein the main office communicates with the remote office over the internet.
- 22. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 19, wherein the main office communicates with the remote office over an intranet.

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23. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 19, wherein a change to one of the data rules in the main office causes a substantially similar change in at least one of the remote office.

- 24. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 19, wherein a change to one of the access rules in the main office causes a substantially similar change in at least one of the remote offices.
- 25. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 19, wherein the remote office communicates with the main office through a web site and the remote office provides information to the web site.
- 26. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 19, wherein the main office maintains a web site and the remote office retrieves information from the web site.
 - 27. (Previously Amended) A system for managing data comprising:

a main office retaining access rules and data rules and being in communication with at least one remote office;

the remote office receiving the access rules and the data rules from the main office; a database coupled to the main office, including a plurality of fields, at least one data element, and at least one function;

wherein the function includes a first operator and a second operator;

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wherein the data element, the first operator and the second operator are all stored on the

database, and

wherein the access rules and the data rules comprise formatting standard rules used by the

main office, and the formatting standard rules are sent to the remote office before the remote

office sends data to the main office such that the data is first correctly formatted to be compatible

with a format used by the main office.

28. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 27, wherein the first

operator is stored in a first location, the second operator is stored in a second location different

than the first location, and the data element is stored in a third location on the same database.

29 (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 27, wherein the first

operator, the second operator, and the data element are stored in a predetermined order that

corresponds to the function.

30. (Original) The system for managing data according to claim 29, wherein when the

fields are retrieved in the predetermined order, the retrieval produces the function.